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The Annual Meeting and Reorganization of the American Peace Society.

The eighty-fourth annual meeting of the American Peace Society, held in the Hotel Raleigh, Washington, D. C., on May 10th, was the most important meeting which the Society has held in recent years. A summary of the proceedings is given on another page, including the text of the revised Constitution and also of the Annual Report of the Board of Directors in full, with a condensed statement of the receipts and expenditures for the year, taken from the treasurer's report.

For the first time an effort was made this year to have the branch societies, which now number twenty-five, represented by official delegates at the annual meeting. This attempt was made with a view of trying to put in operation at once the new federative plan of the Society's reorganization. The result was of course not what it is expected that it

will be in future years, when the representative system comes into full force, but a good beginning was, however, made. Nine of the important branch societies were represented by 15 delegates. The meeting was full of interest, and the discussions on the various phases of the reorganization were unusually clear and strong and carried on in a fine spirit. The members present all showed their deep and genuine interest in the effective promotion of the cause of peace, and it was encouraging to believe that the disposition manifested was representative of the general spirit of the pacifists throughout the country and the world.

The subject which claimed the chief attention of the meeting was the reorganization of the Society and the revision of the Constitution through which it was sought to effect this reorganization. In this revised Constitution an effort was made to embody the bases of a federation of all the peace forces in the nation, with a view to preventing duplication of effort and waste of energy and means. The Constitution as presented, after slight changes and additions, was adopted with practical unanimity and much enthusiasm.

The new Constitution, which was immediately put into full force, provides that of the board of directors twelve shall be elected by the Society at large, and that in addition to these each branch society having 100 members shall choose one member of the board and an additional director for each additional 500 members. It will be noticed that the Constitution also provides that the board of directors may invite other peace organizations of special character to appoint each a member of the board. Under this provision the Carnegie Endowment, the Mohonk Arbitration Conference, the World Peace Foundation, the Society for the Judicial Settlement of International Disputes, the American Association for International Conciliation, and the American School Peace League have been invited to choose each one member of the board, and one or two other organizations of similar character will likewise be invited to do the same. The twelve members at large of the new board were elected at the annual meeting and thirteen directors have been chosen by constituent branches. It is expected that a few more of this class of directors will be appointed by branches at an early date.

When this scheme is fully carried out, as is now certain to be the case, there will be such a union and co-operation of the peace forces of the country as has not heretofore been possible. A study of the Constitution will show that this federation is in nowise to interfere with the independence and autonomy of the various constituent societies. These are to be